


Intellectual Property



KONNOV &
SOZANOVSKY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

About Us



Established in 1992, *Konnov & Sozanovsky* is a law firm, with offices in Ukraine, Russia, Cyprus and the UK. The firm is ranked among the top ten Ukrainian law firms according to a top Ukrainian legal periodical, *The Yuridicheskaya Praktika* ("The Practice of Law") 1997-2008 annual surveys.

According to the Ukrainian Legal Awards 2007 *Konnov & Sozanovsky* was announced as the law firm of the year in the intellectual property area.

With extensive knowledge of Ukrainian and international law, as well as a thorough understanding of commerce in Ukraine, our firm is able to meet clients' needs, both domestic and foreign, in every area of law.

We provide comprehensive legal assistance to our clients in the most popular business areas of law such as copyright and media law, competition law, corporate law, real estate, construction and land law, litigation, tax law, intellectual property, commercial law and contracts, securities and financial institutions.

We adopt an individual approach in each case, taking into consideration the peculiarities of a client's business and his preferences. Our practice includes provision of legal assistance in various sectors of economy such as advertising and design, agriculture, banking, energy and power, food industry, insurance, investments and equity market, light industry, media and telecommunications, pharmaceutical, privatization, publishing, real estate and construction, software, spirits industry, tobacco industry, trade and distribution, production of veterinary medications.

We have strong litigation experience in all key practice areas of intellectual property, including trademarks, patents, copyright, and related unfair competition matters. Our company represents clients before courts, Antimonopoly Committee, State Customs Office, State Intellectual Property Department etc. We also provide traditional IP services including all types of patent and trademark search, preparation and prosecution of patent and trademark applications, IP rights renewal and maintenance. Our lawyers deal with licensing and assignment, handle related negotiations. We also help our clients to develop corporate IP strategies, programs and use policies.

Company Profile

Publications

Konnov & Sozanovsky publishes legal news via the Internet on a regular basis. To subscribe, visit us at www.konnov.com.

Konnov & Sozanovsky's lawyers are experienced authors and commentators on various legal and business matters published in the leading mass-media. We regularly contribute to different international publications such as *Trademarks: Getting the Deal Through*, *Entertainment Law*, *The Comparative Law Yearbook of International Business* (Kluwer Law International), *The Handbook of Competition Enforcement Agencies* (Global Competition Review), *IP Value: Building and Enforcing Intellectual Property Value* (Globe White Page Ltd), *World Trademark Law Report*, *Building and Enforcing Intellectual Property Value, an International Guide for the Boardroom* (by Globe White Page in association with Morgan Stanley and NASDAQ), *Ukrainian Law Firms*, *A Handbook for Foreign Clients* and others.

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Professional Membership

The firm is a full member of American Chamber of Commerce (ACC), European Business Association (EBA), Association of European Businesses (AEB, Russia), Ukrainian Bar Association (UBA), International Trademark Association (INTA), Cypriot-Russian Business Association, Cypriot-Ukrainian Business Association.

Our lawyers are members of:

- American Bar Association (ABA)
- Association of International Tax Consultants (AITC)
- Association of International Arbitration (AIA)
- Inter-American Bar Association (IABA)
- International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI)
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- International Fiscal Association (IFA)
- International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Law Society of Upper Canada
- Ukrainian Advocates' Association (UAA)
- Ukrainian Bar Association (UBA)
- Ukrainian Patent Attorney Association

The firm's lawyers hold executive positions in committees of American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine (ACCU), European Business Association (EBA).

Konnov & Sozanovsky is the exclusive Ukrainian member of the international legal network, First Law International (FLI), which is comprised of law firms in large global centers, allowing us to render superior legal assistance to clients abroad in more than 30 countries.

IP Litigation

We have strong litigation experience in intellectual property matters including trademarks, trade names, patents, copyright and other IP objects. Our lawyers represent clients before courts of all levels. We unite our expertise in IP law and procedural law to help you to develop efficient solutions in litigation and provide thorough protection of IP rights owned by our clients.

Among corporate clients of Konnov & Sozanovsky in IP litigation you can find leading companies from Ukraine and abroad such as World Class Clubs, Ferrero Group, Canon Europe, Moscow News, Olvia Corporation, Biopharma Ltd., Ancor Management etc.

We handle various types of legal actions, in particular actions against IP rights infringement, cancellation actions, appeals against Patent Office decisions, recognizing trademarks well-known etc.

For instance, due to our efforts Olvia Corporation retained their rights to “32 norma” trademark which registration was challenged by the client’s counterparts to prohibit other companies from using “New Pearls (Cyrillic)” trademark. We provided assistance to World Class Clubs in the case of prescheduled termination of trademark registration. Our lawyers helped Point Com Ltd. to prove infringement of their copyright in ringtones and to seek damage compensation. We assist a famous Ukrainian singer Taisia Povaliy in a legal action to stop use of her name by a company manufacturing macaroni.

Unfair Competition


Our experts handle unfair competition matters where IP objects are used unlawfully. We represent clients before courts and the Antimonopoly Committee. Experience of our lawyers allows choosing the best protection strategy against unfair competition from holding negotiations to initiating a legal action against an infringer.

We have successful experience to defend a world-known trademark “Raff aello” against unfair competition. For instance, complying with our appeal the Antimonopoly Committee issued the Decision according to which production of sparkling wine “Raffaell” bearing the labels similar to those of Raffaello goods was prohibited. In a series of other cases we achieved through warning letters that the infringers stopped manufacturing products which appearance and packing were imitation of “Raffaello”.

Negotiations held by our lawyers allowed Hans Einhell AG, known for its high-quality instruments and equipment, to return their rights in “Einhell” trademark which was earlier unfairly registered in the name of another person.

Experience

Border Measures




We assist our clients to protect their IP rights by applying for border measures in order to prevent import of counterfeit goods. Lawyers of *Konnov & Sozanovsky* are experienced in representing clients before Ukrainian customs authorities.

It was our assistance with border measures that helped many of our clients prevent infringement of their IP rights. In particular we assist Olvia Corporation and Ferrero Ukraine to provide border measures. This is important as we always pay full attention to our clients' needs and requests, providing them with comprehensive all-round support.

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Trademarks



Konnov & Sozanovsky provides full-range trademark services.

We conduct all types of trademark searches and advise clients on the search results.


We assist Ukrainian and overseas companies in various business areas to file and prosecute trademark applications in Ukraine and abroad. Patent attorneys of *Konnov & Sozanovsky* advise clients on all pre-filing issues to ensure strong trademark protection and then deal with all aspects of application prosecution. We are experienced in overcoming provisional refusals on trademark applications and proceeding with the Appeal Chamber.

Having trusted our company with your matters you also benefit from postregistration services including renewals, changes to trademark registration etc.

Among our clients are American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, St. John Knits, General Nutrition Company, Core Laboratories, Genentech Inc., Prokit's Industries Co., Ltd, Via Film (UK) Limited, Sentron Limited, Film UA, State Savings Bank of Ukraine, Legal Practice Publishing, EBMpapt Ukraine.

Besides, many overseas patent and law firms entrust us to handle trademark matters of their clients. Among them: A.A. Thornton & Co., Clifford Chance LLP, Patrix AB, Michael Chai & Co., N.J.Q. and Associates, Luthi & Co., Preston Gates Ellis and others.

Patents



Important area of our knowledge is patent applications in most fields of industry including chemistry, communications, mechanical engineering, nuclear science, pharmaceutical, power industry, and textile industry. Our patent services cover preparing, filing and prosecuting national patent applications in Ukraine, prosecuting Ukrainian national phase of PCT applications. Experienced team of patent attorneys and lawyers assist clients to reply the official actions, amend applications with accordance to Ukrainian legislation etc. We conduct patent searches including clearance search and patentability search. We also provide post-registration patent services such as maintaining patents, proceeding with changes to the patent register.

Konnov & Sozanovsky handles Ukrainian phase of various patent applications which foreign patent firms, among which A.A. Thornton & Co., Mark-Inventa Co.Ltd., Jeremy M. Ben-David & Co. Ltd., W.P.Thompson and Co., Preston Gates Ellis, Cooley Godward LLP, Morrison Forster Inc., Foley & Lardner LLP, Cabinet Grynwald, Dorsey & Whitney and other valued companies, entrust to our company.

We handle patent applications of Biomedicines, Inc., Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd., V.F.T. Incorporation, SGT Technologies Holding, LLP, Presidio Power Limited, Neurim Pharmaceuticals (1991) Ltd., Barloworld Plascon S.A. (PTY) Limited, Cipla Limited, Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique and others.

Experience

Media & Copyright

Legal practice of *Konnov & Sozanovsky* covers issues of copyright, TV rights, advertising as well as legal support in the show business sphere. Our experts are proud to have significant, even sometimes unique experience in these domains. We provide consulting services for printed and electronic mass media, studios, producers, singers, broadcasting companies, advertising agencies, production companies, music publishers, recording companies, satellite TV channels.

Our lawyers defended interests of *Konnov & Sozanovsky* clients to conduct negotiations and conclude agreements with such corporations as Warner Brothers, Walt Disney, Paramount Pictures, Universal and others.

We have gained considerable experience in providing legal services in sphere of motion pictures and TV production.

Among our clients are huge Ukrainian films manufacturers: «Melorama», «Film U.A.». We have established close contacts with largest Russian films production companies, such as «Centralpartnership», «Slovo», «Phoenix film», «STV» and others.


Legal Support of Transactions, Licensing and Assignment

We are highly experienced in IP issues in connection with corporate and other transactions, for instance mergers and acquisitions, IPO etc. In particular, our IP lawyers are involved in due diligence of intellectual property matters. We have strong experience in negotiating and preparing IP-related agreements. Our expertise covers license and franchising agreements, assignment agreements, other agreements involving IP issues.

For instance, we were engaged in preparing and negotiating license agreement concerning trademark for the world hotel chain. We also completed the IP issues within the due diligence of leading pharmaceutical and media companies.

Our clients take an advantage of obtaining comprehensive legal advice on transferring or licensing IP rights. We provide, inter alia, legal advice on tax issues of IP matters, which are always indispensable to take into consideration. We also proceed with registration of the agreements with the State Intellectual Property Department.

Corporate IP Strategies



We assist our clients to develop corporate IP strategies to provide comprehensive IP protection, minimize risks of infringement, gain maximum value in course of licensing and enforcing their own IP rights.

Our lawyers and attorneys carefully analyze the system of IP protection existing in the company and elaborate comprehensive recommendations for stronger protection, if necessary. We take into consideration different issues connected with intellectual property including corporate and tax issues, employment issues etc. This helps not only to enhance IP protection but to improve profits gained.



Company Profile

IP Department Team



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